

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A wet clutch friction plate comprising:

a clutch plate;

a core plate disposed opposite the clutch plate and rotatable relative to the clutch plate (20); and

[[a]] friction material (21) bonded to a side face of the core plate and disposed between the clutch and core plates (20),

wherein a plurality of oil channels (22) ~~being formed~~ are defined in the friction material (21) ~~so as to~~ and provide communication between inner and outer peripheral edges of the friction material (21), ~~characterized in that a~~

wherein the plurality of oil channels (22) ~~having~~ include a plurality of discharge oil channels having a discharge angle (β) that relative to a radial line (L) of the friction plate and which are configured to discharge oil from an inner peripheral side to an outer peripheral side of the friction plate (15) due to a screw pump action that occurs when the friction plate (15) rotates relative to the clutch plate, and the plurality of oil channels further include a plurality of inflow oil channels (22) having an inflow angle (α) that relative to the radial line (L) of the friction plate and which are configured to draw oil in from the outer peripheral side to the inner peripheral side of the friction plate due to the screw pump action that occurs when the friction plate rotates relative to the clutch plate, and (15)

wherein the discharge angle (β) inclines rearward relative to the radial line (L) and the inflow angle (α) inclines forward relative to the radial line (L) are mixed at substantially equal intervals.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, wherein the friction plate (15) is divided into a plurality of regions (A) arranged in the peripheral direction, each region including an equal number of discharge and inflow oil channels ~~a plurality of oil channels (22) parallel to each other are formed in the friction material (21) of each region (A), and one oil channel (22) and another oil channel (22) that are positioned at opposite end parts in the peripheral direction of each region (A) are given the discharge angle (β) and the inflow angle (α) respectively.~~

3. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 2, wherein a triangular piece of the friction material is provided at a boundary defined between adjacent regions (A and A).

4. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, wherein the discharge angle (β) is equal to the inflow angle (α).

5. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 2, wherein the discharge angle (β) is equal to the inflow angle (α).

6. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 3, wherein the discharge angle (β) is equal to the inflow angle (α).

7. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, wherein the discharge angle (β) is less than the inflow angle (α).

8. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 2, wherein the discharge angle (β) is less than the inflow angle (α).

9. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 3, wherein the discharge angle (β) is less than the inflow angle (α).

10. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, further comprising a central oil channel defined in the friction material, the central oil channel being positioned intermediate the discharge oil channels and the inflow oil channels, wherein the central oil channel is disposed along the radial line (L) of the friction plate.

11. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of discharge oil channels are parallel relative to each other.

12. **(New)** The wet clutch friction plate according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of inflow oil channels are parallel relative to each other.